



Church chat: From left, Violet Buechner, Ruth Krueger, Leona Schley, Elmyra Baumann and Eva Kostichka talk about their village before a luncheon at

St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Forestville. The women are members of the church's Ladies Aid group.

Villagers take pride in 'city' life

By Karil Van Boxel

Press-Gazette

FORESTVILLE — When a fund-raiser for a new library was held on opening day of deer season, people filled the building.

Chili and baked goods were sold out by early afternoon.

That's Forestville, its residents say.

"That's the good thing about the area — you get community interest," Scott Pinchart says.

Pinchart, 37, 334 Miller Ave., moved here 15 years ago when he married a local woman.

Like some residents, he drives 15 miles to Sturgeon Bay to work at Bay Shipbuilding Corp. Pride is in his voice when he talks about the community at the crossroads of Wisconsin 42 and Door County J.

"We've got all the accommodations of a city. We have our own sanitary system and cable TV," says the eight-year veteran of the Village Board.

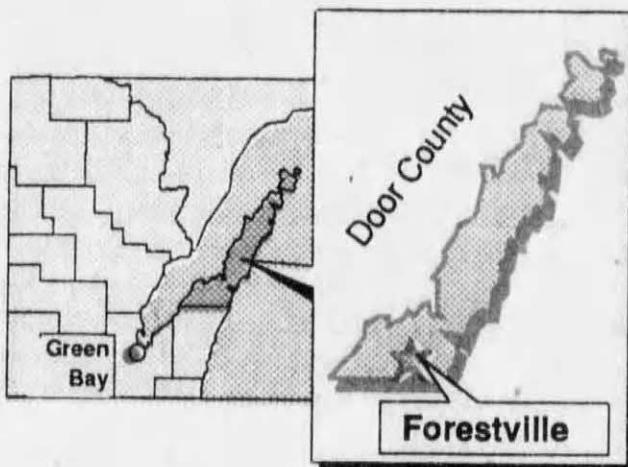
Mary Miller grew up in Forestville, got married and moved away. She returned to operate Miller's Bar, 210 Main St.

"Maybe the excitement isn't that much but we have snowmobiling, fishing two blocks from us, cross-country skiing and horseback riding on the Ahnapee Trail," she says.

Once dairy farming was the mainstay of the area but many farms have been sold or rented. The farmers retired to the village, one lifelong member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church says.

"We used to be more active with din-

The Forestville file



Population: 455 (1980 census)

Year incorporated: 1960

In a name: The village site once was swampy, wooded area. Long-time residents surmise the village took its name from the forest, unlike nearby Maplewood, which focused on a single tree species.

Then and now: A brick factory that flourished years ago is gone along with a flour mill. Other businesses emerged, such as Country Ovens-Cherry De-Lite, a factory where dried Door County cherries, syrup and barbecue sauce are made.

ners years ago," says Elmyra Baumann, 226 Main St., a member of the Ladies Aid of what once was the German Lutheran church. "Now we're all getting older."

Joe Schlise, 87, 211 Gaede Ave., and his brother, Mark, grew up here and formerly owned cherry orchards, a processing plant and farm implement business.

Mark Schlise, 94, moved to Sturgeon Bay three years ago. He is credited with getting the sewage disposal plant built and the village incorporated in 1960.

Village President Clifford Delorit, 72, says the community is a mixture of ages. Young families have moved in and built homes, and an apartment complex for senior citizens was constructed.

All Forestville really needs is a grocery store, some residents say. The previous one closed in the late 1970s and the closest one is in Algoma, five miles away.

Sally Wagner, branch manager of the Community Bank of Algoma, and teller

Joy Maccaux are quick to point out the advantages of doing business here. Travelers checks and student checking are free. Other services aren't as expensive as the cities.

Metwurst, a smoked German pork sausage, is widely requested from Robert Schlise's Meat Market, 128 Main St. The store, started by Schlise's father Lawrence, in 1934, also makes summer sausage, venison sausage and sultz.

"We make over 5 tons of sausage between Nov. 15 and April 15," Janice Schlise says.

Sausage is shipped as far away as California in December.

"People try to get back to what they had as a kid at Christmas," Schlise says of the long-distance requests.

■ **Next week:** Oconto Falls in Oconto County



Village leader: Clifford Delorit, Forestville village president,

stands outside the recently purchased Village Hall and Library.



Local banker: Sally Wagner of the Community Bank of Algoma talks about Forestville's advantages.